Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 AID-05

SAM-01 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04

H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /086 W

O R 092243Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8487

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EAIR, CA

SUBJ: PACIFIC WESTERN OPERATIONS IN ANGOLA

REF: OTTAWA 0029

1. CTV (CANADA'S PRIVATE TELEVISION NETWORK) NEWS, NIGHT OF JAN 8, REPORTED OPERATIONS OF PACIFIC WESTERN AIRLINES C-130 INTO DUNDO, ANGOLA, CARRYING FOOD SUPPLIES TO DIAMOND MINE. COMMENTED THAT IRONY OF SITUATION WAS THAT SUPPLIES ORIGINATED IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT DUNDO WAS IN THE AREA CONTROLLED BY THE MPLA AGAINST WHOM SOUTH AFRICA WAS OPERATING. QUOTED EXTAFF AS INDICATING IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD NOT DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE SITUATION AS, ALTHOUGH

PWA WAS OWNED BY PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, IT WAS ORGANIZED AS A PRIVATE COMPANY AND WAS FLYING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, PURSUANT TO A CONTRACT NEGOTIATED SOME TIME AGO. ALBERTA TRANSPORT OFFICIAL ALSO QUOTED AS STATING PROVINCE OWNS PWA BUT DOES NOT INVOLVE ITSELF IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ENTERPRISE.

2. TCO QUESTIONED PAUL LABERGE (DIRECTOR, TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY DIVISION, EXTAFF) JAN 9 ABOUT THIS REPORT. LABERGE AND HIS STAFF HAD NOT SEEN THE BROADCAST AND WERE UNAWARE THAT EXTAFF HAD MADE ANY STATEMENT ABOUT THE OPERATION. THEY UNDERTOOK TO INQUIRE. LABERGE, HOWEVER, STATED THAT THE GOC HAD NO JURISDICTION OVER CANADIAN CARRIER CHARTER OPERATIONS BETWEEN THIRD COUNTRIES AND CONSEQUENTLY COULD NOT EXERCISE ANY DIRECT CONTROL EVEN IF IT WISHED. TCO POINTED OUT POSSIBILITIES OF INDIRECT CONTROL AND URGED THAT INQUIRY BE MADE AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE CTV REPORT (WHICH HE POINTED OUT WAS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER INFORMATION THE EMBASSY HAD FROM PRETORIA 5011 AND GABORONE 1808) WITH A VIEW TO CONSIDERING ACTION IF APPROPRIATE.

3. COMMENT: SHOULD DEPARTMENT CONSIDER THIS PWA OPERATION OBJECTIONABLE, AND WE SO ADVISE EXTAFF, GOC CAN FIND WAYS OF COMMUNICATING WITH THE CARRIER IF IT WISHES TO. AS A REGIONAL CARRIER PWA IS DEPENDENT ON THE AIR TRANSPORT COMMITTEE FOR MANY APPROVALS. IN ADDITION, THERE MAY STILL BE PENDING AN INVESTIGATION AS TO WHETHER ITS ACQUISITION BY THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA WAS PROPER. PWA ALSO OPERATES ROUTES AND CHARTERS INTO THE UNITED STATES PURSUANT TO CAB AUTHORIZATION. JOHNSON

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